



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached  
(enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown  
below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:  
US AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 30, 2007

Signature:

(Brian R. Tomkins)

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-447 CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :  
:   
Ralph et al. :   
:   
Application No.: 10/771,597 : Group Art Unit: 3733  
:   
:   
Filed: February 4, 2004 : Examiner: M. C. Hoffman  
:   
:   
For: INSERTION TOOL FOR USE WITH :   
INTERVERTEBRAL SPACERS :   
:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated  
October 9, 2007, finally rejecting claims 1-11, please amend the  
above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: